

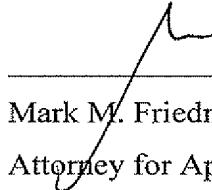
REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the amendments above and the remarks following is respectfully requested. Claims 16 and 22-45 are pending in the application. Claims 16, 22, 23, 30 and 45 have been rejected. Claims 24-29, 31- 44 and 46 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The conditional allowance of claims 24-29, 31- 44 and 46 is gratefully acknowledged.

The rejection of claims 16, 22, 23, 30 and 45 is respectfully traversed. However, in order to expedite allowance, Applicant hereby cancels claims 16, 22, 23, 30 and 45 and rewrites claims 24, 31 and 46 in independent form including all of the limitations of, respectively, base claims 23, 30 and 45 from which these claims depend directly. Claim 37 is amended to change its dependency from claim 30 to claim 31.

In view of the above amendments it is respectfully submitted that claims 24 - 29, 31- 44 and 46 are now in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of allowance is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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